

# The Constitution of Cru at Northern Michigan University



## ARTICLE I—NAME

The name of this student group is Cru or NMU Cru.

This student group is a student chapter (hereafter Chapter) recognized by Cru, a California nonprofit corporation with its principal offices in Orlando, Florida.

This student group has applied for and been granted Chartered status as a Chapter of Cru. As long as the student group fulfills the mission set forth in the Charter, and otherwise remains in compliance with its obligations under the Charter, the student group has the right to use the name and materials of Cru that are designated for the use of Chapters within the Campus Ministry. The student group has agreed that it will carry out the mission and present the messages of Cru.

## ARTICLE II—PURPOSE

The purpose of the Chapter, as articulated in the Charter, is to build movements of people who are transformed by Jesus Christ. The student-led movement seeks to introduce students to Jesus Christ, help them to grow in their faith, encourage them to live life passionately under the lordship of Christ, and inspire commitment to advancing the purposes of God in the world.

## ARTICLE III—STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Statement of Faith is the doctrinal foundation of this organization.

The Statement of Faith for this organization can be found at <https://www.cru.org/us/en/about/statement-of-faith.html>. See APPENDIX I

## ARTICLE IV—MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1.

Membership shall be open to all duly enrolled Northern Michigan University students. Membership and activities are open to all currently enrolled students.

Active membership shall consist of those members who regularly attend large group meetings, have been a member of a small group Bible study for the previous semester/quarter, and have attended a Cru retreat or conference.

This Chapter may have associated members who are non-students, such as faculty and staff, community members, alumni and Cru staff members. Associated members shall have all membership privileges except the right to vote or hold office.

### Section 2.

A member may lose the privileges of membership, including the right to attend meetings and events sponsored by Cru, under the following circumstances:

1. If the individual is causing disruption to the group or is engaged in disorderly conduct or threats.
2. If the individual poses a danger to other students.
3. If the individual's conduct rises to the level of harassment of another member of the group.

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Under such circumstances, two or more members of the Leadership Team will meet with the individual, share the concerns, and ask him or her to leave the group. The accused member may then request a hearing before the full Leadership Team. The President will then call a special leadership meeting. They will hear from the accused member as well as other witnesses, confer, and make a decision regarding the accused member's membership rights.

### **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND LEADERSHIP**

#### **Section 1: Officers**

The officers of this organization will serve as liaisons with the University. The officers of this organization shall be the following:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Other officers deemed necessary

**Term of office:** An officer shall serve for one school term from the start of his/her term of office or until his/her successor is selected. The officers will be responsible for organizing and providing leadership for all meetings, activities and events of the Chapter, including religious activities related to worship, prayer, Scripture study, evangelism, and discipleship—or any other activity intended to further the purposes and to communicate the messages of the Chapter.

**Additional Leaders:** The current Leadership Team, in consultation with Cru staff, shall select additional leaders that are able to serve the Chapter as needed for a school term.

**Leadership Team:** the Leadership Team shall consist of the officers and additional selected leaders that provide direction for various aspects of the Chapter's purpose.

#### **Section 2: Qualifications**

In order to be eligible for office, members must demonstrate that they are qualified to serve as representatives of the Chapter and the organization of Cru.

- A. **Attendance requirement:** Officers must have been involved for at least one school term, having attended 75% of weekly large group and/or small group meetings (unless they were not in residence because they participated in an off campus study abroad program, an internship, or were involved in a Cru Chapter on a different campus).
- B. **Knowledge requirement:** Officers must complete the Chapter's leadership application, which shall determine the applicant's skill in providing spiritual leadership for the Chapter and knowledge of the Chapter's core messages.
- C. **Alignment requirement:** Officers must commit to lead the Chapter in a way which is consistent with the mission and faithful to the messages of Cru, and will not undermine Cru's mission and message. Officers will also commit to guide the Cru Chapter to serve the University community, seeking to care for those in need.
- D. **Additional Eligibility Requirements:** Officers must meet the school's eligibility requirements for leaders of registered student organizations as listed below:

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### **Section 3: Selection Process**

- A. Officers of this Chapter will be chosen either through election by active membership or selection by the previous term's Leadership Team. See Article VI. Additional leaders will be selected from the active membership. They will be chosen based on their ability to meet the same qualifications as the officers, and their willingness to serve.
- B. Applicants who meet the qualifications outlined above shall be eligible to stand for election for a leadership position.
- C. During any election or selection process, applicants will be asked about their faith, beliefs and views. Qualified applicants may be asked about their willingness to model the Chapter's core messages through their behavior so that the messages are communicated with integrity.
- D. The staff members of Cru serve an advisory role in the selection process, working with the current Leadership Team to consider and evaluate potential new leaders. The Leadership Team will then select individuals, inviting them to take the new leadership roles.

### **Section 4: Removal of Leaders**

Leaders may be removed from their positions by a majority of the Leadership Team. Any member of the Chapter may make a complaint against any leader in the Chapter, including a member of the Leadership Team. Following the complaint, the Leadership Team (or members of the Leadership Team) shall meet to confer with the Chapter's Cru staff for advice and counsel. They will also meet with both the complaining individual and the accused leader. No leader may be removed without first receiving a full and fair hearing from the Leadership Team. A leader complained against may only be removed by at least a simple majority of the remaining members of the Leadership Team.

Any misrepresentation on the leadership application or a change in the leader's commitment to lead the Chapter to fulfill its purpose as stated in Art. II, shall be grounds for the immediate review of the leader's position by the Leadership Team.

## **ARTICLE VI – ELECTIONS**

### **Section 1.**

Types of Elections: Elections, if held, will occur at the end of each term to select the following term's officers. Special elections may be held whenever called by a majority of the Leadership Team.

### **Section 2.**

Nomination of Candidates: When an election is scheduled, any active member may nominate a candidate for office during the meeting or meetings prior to the vote. Any member may raise a question or concern to the Leadership Team regarding a present or proposed leader. The candidate must meet the qualifications for office listed in Article V, section 2, in order to be placed on the ballot (or selected for any leadership position in a given term).

### **Section 3.**

Form of Vote: Active members shall vote under this article by secret ballot.

## **ARTICLE VII—MEETINGS**

### **Section 1.**

Types of meetings:

- A. Membership Meetings: Formal meetings of the active membership to conduct a vote.

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- B. Large and Small Group Meetings: Regularly scheduled meetings for all members to attend.
- C. Additional Meetings: Gatherings, in addition to regularly scheduled meetings, which are open to all members.

## **Section 2.**

Quorum for Membership meetings: In order to conduct a vote of the active members, at least half of the active membership must be present at the meeting.

## **Section 3.**

Meetings shall be held to further the purposes of the Chapter. The officers, in consultation with Cru staff, shall determine the frequency, time and place, and agenda of the various meetings.

Large group meetings typically occur weekly during the school year, breaking when instruction ends and during school vacation periods. Small group meetings (Bible Studies, Discussion Groups) also meet weekly within the same parameters. Other meetings necessary to advance the purposes of the Chapter will be held as occasion warrants.

## **ARTICLE VIII—FINANCES**

The Chapter may raise revenues through contributions, fundraising activities or by applying for school funds available to student groups. Paying dues is not a mandatory requirement to be considered a member of this organization. Students, however, may be charged for such services as special social gatherings, retreats and conferences.

The Chapter will hold to high standards of financial integrity. A member or several members of the leadership team will be responsible to carefully administer any school funds granted to the Chapter.

## **ARTICLE IX—ADVISORS**

The advisor for this organization shall be decided upon by the officers of the organization. The advisor must be a faculty or staff member at Northern Michigan University or a Cru Staff member who is a member of the NMU Campus Ministry Association.

## **ARTICLE X—CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 1.**

The Leadership Team may seek to amend this constitution by general consensus.

### **Section 2.**

Articles II and III may not be amended without express written permission of Cru.

### **Section 3.**

All amendments, additions or deletions must be filed with the office of The Center for Student Enrichment within 4 weeks of adoption, and will become valid at the time of filing.

Created: 4-16-2018

Approved:

Amended:

# The Constitution of Cru at Northern Michigan University

## APPENDIX I — STATEMENT OF FAITH

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The sole basis of our beliefs is the Bible, God's infallible written Word, the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. We believe that it was uniquely, verbally and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit and that it was written without error (inerrant) in the original manuscripts. It is the supreme and final authority in all matters on which it speaks.

We accept those areas of doctrinal teaching on which, historically, there has been general agreement among all true Christians. Because of the specialized calling of our movement, we desire to allow for freedom of conviction on other doctrinal matters, provided that any interpretation is based upon the Bible alone, and that no such interpretation shall become an issue which hinders the ministry to which God has called us.

1. There is one true God, eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – each of whom possesses equally all the attributes of Deity and the characteristics of personality.
2. Jesus Christ is God, the living Word, who became flesh through His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth. Hence, He is perfect Deity and true humanity united in one person forever.
3. He lived a sinless life and voluntarily atoned for human sins by dying on the cross as a substitute, thus satisfying divine justice and accomplishing salvation for all who trust in Him alone.
4. He rose from the dead in the same body, though glorified, in which He lived and died.
5. He ascended bodily into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God the Father, where He, the only mediator between God and humanity, continually makes intercession for His own.
6. Adam and Eve were originally created in the image of God. They sinned by disobeying God; thus, they were alienated from their Creator. That historic fall brought all people under divine condemnation.
7. Human nature is corrupted. As a result, all people are totally unable to please God. Everyone is in need of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
8. Salvation is wholly a work of God's free grace and is not the work, in whole or in part, of human works or goodness or religious ceremony. God imputes His righteousness to those who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation, and thereby justified them in His sight.
9. It is the privilege of all who are born again of the Spirit to be assured of their salvation from the very moment in which they trust Christ as their Savior. This assurance is not based upon any kind of human merit, but is produced by the witness of the Holy Spirit, who confirms in the believer the testimony of God in His written word.
10. The Holy Spirit has come into the world to reveal and glorify Christ and to apply the saving work of Christ to individuals. He convicts and draws sinners to Christ, imparts new life to them, continually indwells them from the moment of spiritual birth and seals them until the day of redemption. His fullness, power and control are appropriated in the believer's life by faith.
11. Believers are called to live so in the power of the indwelling Spirit that they will not fulfill the lust of the flesh but will bear fruit to the glory of God.
12. Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, His Body, which is composed of all people, living and dead, who have been joined to Him through saving faith.
13. God admonishes His people to assemble together regularly for worship, for participation in ordinances, for edification through the Scriptures and for mutual encouragement.
14. At physical death the believer enters immediately into eternal, conscious fellowship with the Lord and awaits the resurrection of the body to everlasting glory and blessing.
15. At physical death the unbeliever enters immediately into eternal, conscious separation from the Lord and awaits the resurrection of the body to everlasting judgment and condemnation.
16. Jesus Christ will come again to the earth – personally, visibly and bodily – to consummate history and the eternal plan of God.
17. The Lord Jesus Christ commanded all believers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to disciple people from every nation. The fulfillment of that Great Commission requires that all worldly and personal ambitions be subordinated to a total commitment to “Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.”